

## INFORMATION PAPER

DAMO-SSF  
06 APR 2000

SUBJECT: FAO In-Country Program - Romania

1. **PURPOSE.** To provide a summary of the FAO In-Country Training (ICT) Program and facilities in Romania to assist in selection and arrival of replacement personnel. Projected in-country trainees should use the information provided to contact incumbent FAO trainees and/or FAO supervisor as early as possible for more detailed information.

2. **FACTS:**

a. Summary of Program:

(1) Tour Length: 12 months.

(2) Normal Arrival/Departure Dates: Early to mid-July. Current FAO on station since 09 July 99.

(3) Program Description: One FAO officer is assigned to ICT site located in Bucharest per year. The program consists of five months of regional travel followed by six months in attendance at the Romanian National Defense. Generally, the program consists of: (a) travel within Romania, its neighboring countries and other European nations that impact Romania; (b) attendance at a civil-military war college level institution in Bucharest; (c) a one month travel program or "terrain walk" through the Romanian military defense sectors throughout the country under the auspices of the National Defense College, and visitations of all major security, political, and military institutions in the country; (d) participation in national defense seminars; (e) the completion of a graduation thesis in Romanian on the topic of Romanian national security; and (f) nationwide and regional travel.

(4) Prerequisites: Captain or Major; Romanian language skills of at least 2-2-2; with higher scores in reading and listening desired; branch immaterial; no gender restrictions, though the program of travel is usually more accommodating to male officers due to a lack of facilities for females.

b. Property

(1) Government:

(a) Vehicles. FAO must sign a hand receipt for a 1991 Jeep Cherokee (current FAO vehicle).

(b) Furniture. Government furniture in the FAO residence follows: queen-size bed (mattress and box springs), two twin beds (mattress and box spring), wardrobe x2, table lamp x2, household table, bedside table x3, mirror x3, armchair, end table, chest, dresser, household desk, desk chair, loveseat, sofa, refrigerator x2, freezer, electric range, water distiller, washer, dryer, hutch, household chair, china cabinet, dining room table, buffet, bookcase x2, microwave, household server table, cocktail table.

(2) Personal:

(a) POV: Recommend shipping of POV, especially if officer possesses children under age three. POV generally not needed in Bucharest due to relatively high quality and extremely inexpensive public transportation. Recommend shipping older, widely-manufactured vehicles due to lack of available insurance, poor quality roads and driving conditions. Four-wheel drive recommended.

(b) Household goods: Incoming FAOs should coordinate with resident FAOs for recommended items to bring as accompanied and unaccompanied baggage. A personal computer with modem is highly recommended.

c. Housing: State Department Housing Pool. State Department housing quality is generally high. FAO housing currently furnished by State Department (bought into Embassy Housing Pool) and furniture by the Army. The quality of the FAO house is adequate. It has 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, living room, dining room, kitchen, laundry room in basement and storage area in the attic.

d. Support facilities:

(1) Medical: Embassy has on-site nurse. Nearest US military doctor is in Landstuhl. Serious illnesses or emergencies will be medevac'd to Germany or US. Romanian medical facilities not recommended under most circumstances. A reciprocal military health care agreement is currently being negotiated with the Romanian Ministry of Defense. A one-year supply of over the counter and prescription medication is recommended. Prescription medication can be shipped through the Pentagon Pharmacy mail out program. It is **highly** recommended that the FAO enroll with the mail out program at the following address:

United States Army Health Clinic, The Pentagon

Army Pharmacy Service  
ATTN: MCHL-WP-P  
Washington, DC 20310-5801  
DSN: 225-6061  
CML: (703) 697-2166

(2) Dependent Schooling: Available through American International School in Bucharest, levels K through 12.

(3) PX/Commissary: American Embassy operates a commissary and snack bar, through an embassy employee association. Use of these facilities requires a \$300. refundable deposit and a \$100. non-refundable membership fee. Commissary selection is extremely limited and prices are much higher than US prices. No PX available. Nearest US PX/Commissary is Augsburg, Germany. Current FAO was given a 3000 pound consumables shipment allowance for a one-year supply of consumable goods. Availability of consumer goods in Bucharest has risen, but consumable goods shipment recommended. The residence is equipped with a water distiller.

(4) Language Instruction Availability. Tutoring available through native Romanian instructor for a cost of \$8 US per hour.

f. Rating Chain:

Rater - Naval Attaché.  
Senior Rater - Defense/Air Attaché.

g. FAO In Training/Programmed:

MAJ Timothy Buchen	SF,89	9906-0007
CPT Todd Smith	AR,91	0006-0107

h. Address:

(1) Mail: USDAO, American Embassy, Bucharest, Washington, D.C.  
20521-5260

(2) Message: USDAO Bucharest RO

i. Phone: DAO/US Embassy: 011-40-1-210-4042. Fax: 011-40-1-212-3602.  
FAO office 011-40-1-210-4042, ext 359.

### **3. Additional Information:**

a. General recommendations: Bring US Army professional reading material, to include the Army Times, Military Review, CAS3 or CGSC manuals, FMs, etc. BDUs not required. Recommend bringing several sets of Class B and A uniforms, and a reserve supply of military uniform ribbons and insignia. Civilian suits highly recommended for attendance in classes, travel, and work at USDAO. Dress blue / mess uniform recommended for formal social functions (Marine Corps Ball, etc.). FAO orders should recommend civilian clothing allowance.

b. Regional Travel Priorities are as follows:

(1) Priority One: Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Balkans.

(2) Priority Two: Czech Republic, Poland, Germany, Austria, Italy.

(3) Priority Three: Greece, France, Belgium.

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